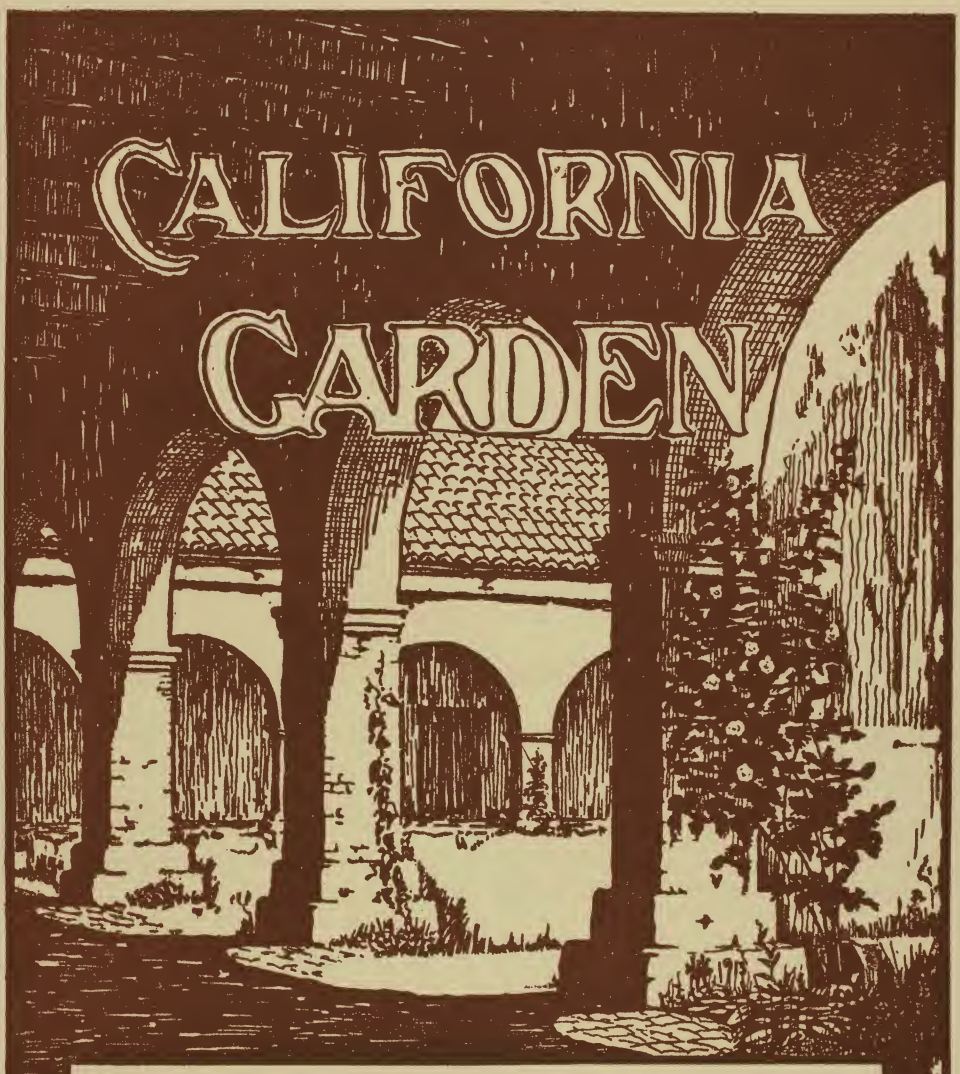

IN THIS NUMBER

FLOWER SHOW AWARDS

STRAY THOUGHTS
By Peter D. Barnhart

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By Lester Rowntree

APRIL, 1932 TEN CENTS

DAHLIA BULBS, over 50 varieties now ready.
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It has been reported to us that it is being said that we have suffered severe loss through excessive use of FLORANID fertilizer. We wish to deny that any ill effects, at any time or on any kind of plant, have been observed from the use of Floranid at Rosecroft, on the contrary marked benefit has resulted, and we use it more all the time.

Summer course of lectures commencing June 1st, send for particulars.

ALFRED D. ROBINSON ANNIE C. ROBINSON
— Proprietors —

The magazine—"California Garden," a practical local guide published monthly for 20 years. Subscription $1.00 per year.

The official organ of the San Diego Floral Association, now in its 21st year of continuous activities.

All interested in garden matters and civic beautification are invited to join. Dues $1.50 per year. Magazine and Membership combined $2.00 per year. P. O. Box 323, San Diego.

The California Garden

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Vol. 23 SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA, APRIL, 1932 No. 10

SPRING FLOWER SHOW AWARDS

Twenty-fifth Annual Spring Show of the San Diego Floral Association, held Saturday, Sunday and Monday, April 9, 10 and 11, 1932. Main Plaza, Balboa Park.

Section "A"—Amateurs

1. Best collection of roses—not less than 12 varieties and not more than three blooms of a kind. (Association cup). First, Forrest L. Hieatt; second, S. M. Worden; award of merit, Mrs. F. T. Scripps.

2. Best six varieties of roses—not more than three blooms of a kind. First, E. R. Bliss, Jr.; second, Mrs. F. H. Lane.

3. Best collection of roses—not more than one bloom of a kind. First, Mrs. F. H. Lane; second, Frank Strausser; award of merit, Mrs. Frank St. Sure.

4. Best three white roses, one variety. First, Mrs. E. D. Clapp; second, Mrs. L. F. Wilcox; award of merit, George Beech.

5. Best three red roses, one variety. First, S. M. Worden; second, E. H. Eccles; award of merit, Jas. W. Coffroth.

6. Best three yellow roses, one variety. First, Mrs. Chas. W. Ritz; second, Chas. Kinkler; award of merit, E. H. Eccles.

7. Best three yellow shaded roses, one variety. First, David G. Houston; second, George Beech; award of merit, P. H. Tyler.

8. Three pink roses, one variety. First, George Beech; second, Chas. Winkler.

9. Best three pink shaded roses, one variety. First, W. J. Dermody; second, George Beech.

10. Best three flame colored roses, one variety (example, Mme. Herriott). First, S. M. Worden; second, Chas. Winkler; award of merit, Mrs. Chas. W. Ritz.

11. Best one white rose. First, Mrs. Amine Hicks; second, Mrs. L. F. Wilcox.

12. Best one pink rose. First, S. M. Worden; second, Mrs. H. A. Leffert; award of merit, L. H. Baldwin.

13. Best one yellow rose. First, S. M. Worden; second, Chas. Winkler; award of merit, Mrs. Chas. W. Ritz.

14. Best one red rose. First, John Hicks; second, S. M. Worden; award of merit, W. F. Shewer.

15. Best one crimson rose.

16. Best one pink shaded rose. First, George Beech; second, David G. Houston; award of merit, L. T. Houston.

17. Best one yellow shaded rose. First, Ernest Nagy; second, L. T. Houston; award of merit, Mrs. Chas. W. Ritz.

18. Best one flame colored rose. First, Mrs. H. A. Leffert; second, Mrs. E. J. Ridgeway; award of merit, Jas. W. Coffroth.

19. Best display of single roses. Special award, Mr. and Mrs. E. Thelen.

20. Best display of Polyantha or Baby Roses. Special award, Kenneth Eccles.

21. Best display of climbing roses. First, Mrs. E. J. Ridgeway; second, Mrs. W. H. Wilson.

22. Best rose introduced in 1931. Award of merit, E. R. Bliss, Jr., "Mme. Nicolas Aussel."

23. Best six red roses, one variety. First, Miss C. S. Huckel; second, Mrs. Amine Hicks; award of merit, David G. Houston.

24. Best six white roses, one variety.

25. Best six yellow roses, one variety. First. E. R. Bliss, Jr.; second, L. H. Baldwin.

26. Best six yellow shaded roses, one variety. First, S. M. Worden; second, E. H. Eccles.

27. Best six pink roses, one variety. First, Forrest L. Hieatt; second, S. W. Bradt; award of merit, Mrs. E. F. Macbeth.

28. Best six pink shaded roses, one variety.

29. Best six flame colored roses, one variety. First, L. H. Baldwin; second, E. H. Eccles.

30. Best arranged vase, bowl or dish of roses. First, Forrest L. Hieatt; second, Forrest L. Hieatt; award of merit, S. W. Gilbert.

31. Best arranged basket of roses. First, Forrest L. Hieatt; second, Mrs. W. H. Wilson; award of merit, Forrest L. Hieatt.

Best Rose in the Show

(San Diego Floral Association Silver Medal)
H. Lodge, "Mrs. A. R. Barraclough."

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Section "B"

Iris—Open Class

32. Collection of 20 or more Bearded Iris.

33. Collection of 10 or more Bearded Iris. Special award, Mrs. Paul V. Tuttle.

34. Collection of five or more Bearded Iris. Special award, Mrs. Paul V. Tuttle.

35. Collection of three or more Bearded Iris. First, Mrs. E. Schroeder; second, Mrs. Wendell Brant; award of merit, Mrs. Paul V. Tuttle.

35a. Collection Persian and Persian Hybrid. First, Wight Gardens; second, John A. Monroe.

36. Specimen stalk, pink lavender. First, John A. Monroe; second, Mrs. John Nuttall; award of merit, Mrs. Paul V. Tuttle.

37. Specimen stalk, blue lavender. First, Mrs. Walter E. Campbell; second, Mrs. Paul V. Tuttle; award of merit, Mrs. Walter E. Campbell.

38. Specimen stalk, white lavender. Special award, Mrs. E. J. Ridgway.

39. Specimen stalk, plicatas. Special award, Mrs. Paul V. Tuttle.

40. Specimen stalk, pink. Special award, Mrs. Paul V. Tuttle.

41. Specimen stalk, yellow.

42. Specimen stalk, red purple. First, Mrs. Paul V. Tuttle; second, Mrs. John Nuttall.

43. Specimen stalk, blue purple. Special award, Mrs. Paul V. Tuttle.

44. Specimen stalk, blends. First, Mrs. Paul V. Tuttle; second, John A. Monroe; award of merit, Mrs. Wendell Brant.

45. Specimen stalk, yellow and brown.

46. Specimen stalk, red and white bi-colors.

47. Collection of iris, not bearded. Special award, Miss Mary Matthews.

48. Collection of bulbous iris. First, Mrs. Paul V. Tuttle; second, Wight Gardens; award of merit, Mrs. Jennie Owens.

49. Best basket of beardless iris. First, Mrs. Cynthia Raglan; second, Mrs. Chas. W. Ritz.

49a. Best vase of beardless iris. First, Marguerite Flower Shop; second, Mrs. E. J. Ridgeway; award of merit, Mr. and Mrs. E. Thelen.

50. Best basket of bearded iris with other flowers. Special award, Mrs. Paul V. Tuttle.

50a. Best vase of bearded iris with other flowers.

51. Best basket of bearded iris. Special award, Forrest L. Hieatt.

51a. Best vase of bearded iris. First, Mrs. E. Meise; second, Mrs. E. Meise; award of merit, Mr. and Mrs. E. Thelen.

52. Best iris bed or garden.

Iris sweepstakes, Mrs. Paul V. Tuttle.

Section "C"—Amateurs

Sweet Peas

53. Best collection sweet peas, 10 stems each vase. Harris Seed Co. trophy. First, Frank Strausser; second, Mrs. Harry Nelson; award of merit, Mrs. R. C. Hayward.

54. Best vase sweet peas, white. First, Mrs. L. E. Cooley; second, Mrs. Anna Edwards; award of merit, Mrs. Eva K. Gray.

55. Best vase sweet peas, cream and yellow shades. First, Frank Strausser; second, Mrs. H. H. Hallett; award of merit, Mrs. L. Starke.

56. Best vase sweet peas, red and red shades. First, Frank Strausser; second, Mrs. Wendell Brant; award of merit, Frank Strausser.

57. Best vase sweet peas, pink and pink shades. First, Mr. B. J. Elliott; second, Mrs. B. B. Starke; award of merit, Mrs. Harry Nelson.

58. Best vase sweet peas, lavender and blue shades. First, Mrs. Harry Nelson; second, Mrs. Anna Edwards; award of merit, Mrs. Eva K. Gray.

59. Best vase sweet peas, purple and maroon shades. First, Mrs. Edith Naylor; second, Mrs. E. D. Morrison; award of merit, Mrs. L. Starke.

60. Best vase sweet peas, salmon and orange shades. First, Mrs. Harry Nelson; second, Mrs. H. H. Hallett; award of merit, Mrs. Eva K. Gray.

61. Best vase sweet peas, bi-color. First, A. Brandis; second, E. H. Fosdick; award of merit, Mrs. H. H. Hallett.

62. Best arranged bowl of sweet peas. First, Mrs. H. H. Hallett; second, Mrs. D. Roult; award of merit, Mrs. Harry Nelson; special award, Mrs. H. E. Crabtree, Frank Strausser.

63. Best arranged bowl of sweet peas. First, Mrs. Frank Carlson; second, Mrs. Harry Nelson; award of merit, Dr. K. H. Kellogg.

Sweet pea sweepstakes, San Diego Floral Association, bronze medal, Mrs. Harry Nelson.

Section "D"—Miscellaneous

Amateurs

64. Best arranged basket of flowers other than roses, wild flowers or sweet peas. First, K. H. Kellogg; second, Mrs. Cynthia Raglan; special award, Mrs. W. H. Wilson; special award, Mrs. E. F. Macbeth.

65. Best arranged basket of wild flowers. First, Mrs. G. H. Hinrichs.

66. Best arrangement of flowers in vase, bowl or dish. First, Mrs. E. W. Meise; second, Mrs. D. F. Harness; special award, Frank Leonard; special award, James R. Russell; special award, Miss Mary Marston.

67. Best French bouquet. Special award, Esther Fish.

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68. Best individual specimen decorative plant. First, Harry C. Morgan; second, Mrs. E. F. Macbeth; award of merit, Mrs. E. F. Macbeth.

69. Best cut specimen flowering vine. First, K. H. Kellogg.

70. Best collection of bulb flowers, six or more varieties. Mary Matthews trophy. First, E. R. Bliss, Jr.; second, Eva K. Gray; award of merit, Mrs. D. Roult.

71. Best display of gladiolus.

72. Best display of pansies.

73. Best display of violas. Special award, Margaret Roult.

74. Best display of cinerarias.

75. Best display of potted plants. Special award, David G. Houston.

76. Best display of delphiniums.

77. Best display of stocks. First, Mrs. C. B. Smith; second, E. H. Eccles.

78. Best display of snapdragon. First, Mrs. D. Roult; second, David G. Houston; award of merit, E. H. Eccles.

79. Best display of calendulas. First, Mrs. G. M. Lutes; second, Mrs. John Nuttall; award of merit, Mrs. Jennie Owens.

80. Best display of larkspurs. First, Mrs. John Nuttall; second, E. H. Eccles; award of merit, Mrs. C. B. Smith.

81. Best display of fuchsias. Special award, Mrs. G. Koch.

82. Best display of any other flowers not otherwise classified. First, Frank Leonard; second, Charles Winkler; award of merit, Mrs. L. N. Benedict.

Sweepstakes, classes 76 to 82 inclusive, Mrs. John Nuttall.

84. Best displayed collection of succulents and cacti, open class. First, Knickerbocker Nursery; second, Mrs. Hazel E. Baker; award of merit, Mrs. Edgar B. Austin.

85. Best rock garden suitably planted. First, Fred H. Wylie.

86. Best dish or tray garden. First, W. H. Hutchings; second, Ruth Jennings; award of merit, Mrs. Richard Kahle.

87. Best miniature garden, limit 18x24 inches. First, Mrs. W. H. Wilson; second, W. H. Hutchings ;award of merit, W. H. Hutchings.

88. Best collection of begonias, ferns and other lathhouse plants.

89. Best one specimen fibrous begonia.

90. Best specimen maidenhair fern.

91. Best dining table decoration. First, Mrs. Richard Kahle; second, Mrs. Charles W. Ritz; award of merit, Miss Stella Klauber; special award, Miss Lydia Schweider, Mrs. Fred Gazley.

92. Best Japanese arrangement of flowers. First, Mrs. E. W. Meise; second, Mrs. Robert Morrison; award of merit, Emily St. John; Mrs. E. W. Meise.

93. Best display from civic, state or national institution.

94. Best display of wild flowers or grasses by an individual. Special award, Rockwood Garden.

94a. Flowering shrubs never before exhibited. Special award, Mrs. Amy Strong.

95. Best display of flowers grown and arranged by child 12 years and under. First, Irene Nagy; second, Alice Long; award of merit, Kenneth Eccles.

Section "E"—Professionals

(Entries by Nurserymen)

96. Best display of cut roses. First, Badger Tanner Nurseries, Rancho Santa Fe.

97. Best displayed collection of rose bushes in bloom. First, Mrs. E. Benard; second, Mission Hills Nursery.

98. Best general display of cut flowers other than roses.

99. Best displayed collection of shrubs and plants. First, Rosecourt Floral Co.

100. Best display of bulb flowers.

101. Best exhibit of gladiolus.

102. Best collection of begonias, ferns and other lathhouse plants. First, Montalvo Gardens.

103. Best hanging basket for lathhouse or porch. First, Montalvo Gardens; second, Rosecourt Floral Co.; award of merit, Montalvo Gardens.

104. Best 3 or 5 decorative plants for patio in jars.

105. Best collection of aloes in bloom.

106. Best collection garden pottery.

Section "F"

(Entries by Florists)

107. Best arranged basket, bowl or vase of cut flowers. First, Rosecourt Floral Co.; second, Marguerite Flower Shop; special, Marguerite Flower Shop; outstanding display in show, Balboa Park Dept. Special awards: 1, W. H. Hutchings, display of small rock gardens; 2, Soledad Rock and Water Gardens; 3, Exclusive Florists, basket of flowers; 4, special, wild flower exhibit, Natural History Museum; 5, bird of paradise, Rose Troth.

Trophies Awarded

Best collection of roses, not less than 12 varieties—Forrest L. Hieatt.

Best six varieties of roses—E. R. Bliss, Jr.

Best collection of roses, not more than one bloom of a kind—Mrs. F. H. Lane.

Best arranged vase, bowl or dish of roses —Forrest L. Hieatt.

Best arranged basket of roses—Forrest L. Hieatt.

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Best rose in show—H. Lodge, "Mrs. A. R. Barraclough."

Iris sweepstakes—Mrs. Paul V. Tuttle.

Best collection of sweet peas — Frank Strausser.

Sweet pea sweepstakes—Mrs. Harry Nelson.

Best arranged basket of flowers—K. H. Kellogg.

Best arrangement of flowers in vase, bowl or dish—Mrs. E. Meise.

Best collection of bulb flowers—E. R. Bliss, Jr.

Sweepstakes, classes 76 to 82—Mrs. John Nuttall.

Best displayed collection succulents and cacti—Knickerbocker Nurseries.

Best rock garden, suitably planted—Fred H. Wylie.

Best dish or tray garden—W. H. Hutchings.

Best miniature garden—Mrs. W. H. Wilson.

Best dining table decoration—Mrs. Richard Kahle.

Best Japanese arrangement of flowers — Mrs. E. W. Meise.

Best display of cut roses by nurserymen—Badger Tanner Nurseries.

Best displayed collection of rose bushes in bloom—Mrs. E. Bernard.

Best displayed collection of shrubs and plants—Rose Court Floral Co.

Best collection of begonias, ferns and other lathhouse subjects—Montalvo Gardens.

Best arranged basket, bowl or vase of cut flowers by florists—Rose Court Floral Co.

Outstanding display in show—Balboa Park.

Native Flora display, San Diego Natural History Museum.

Judges

Arrangement, Reginald Poland, Miss Mary Belle Williams and Mrs. A. M. Shoven, and for the amateur and professional classes, J. J. Reeves of Beverly Hills, Frank Shearer, superintendent of parks of Los Angeles and George W. Chandler, representative of Howard & Smith, Montebello.

STRAY THOUGHTS

By Peter D. Barnhart

Experience is the school in which we learn the lessons of life, whether it be in Love or in Gardening. This is not a love story, rather the experience of a gardener of this Southland during the season of 1931 and 1932, the coldest on record since records have been kept.

When in Honolulu I collected a lot of seed of plants new, that appealed to me. The Coolidge people grew them for me, and here is what I learned about them this season. Argyreia tiliaefolia is one of them. A member of the Tribe; Convulvulaceae; the Morning Glory tribe. The flowers are a light purple and not atractive as are other members of the family. The plant however is clothed with a dense coat of white, downy tomentum. The foliage is a foot broad, heart shaped, the entire plant a thing of beauty, and of very vigorous growth. It made a prodigious growth last summer, but the cold was too much for its nature, and now it is only a memory. At the same time and close by the side of this same plant, a vigorous plant of the same tribe, though of a different family was planted of what I believe to be Ipomea chrysantha, though Frear in her work on plants growing in Honolulu calls it Convulvulus tuberosum. Anyway the plant is a vigorous grower, of dark color, and smooth as though varnished. The flowers, golden color, and remain open all day. It came through the severe cold, though the foliage dropped. At this writing it promises to show its colors this season. It is known on the island as the "Wooden Rose Vine" because the calyx is persistant to the seed pod, and both when dried are ornamental. The Dombeya of which I wrote about in the February issue and did not know the name, I have learned since is the species known as Calantha, and to my notion the most desirable of all species yet tested in our gardens. In that same article reference was made to Myrica rubra, as sterile. It now is full of red cylindrical Catkins, and my hope is that they may be unisexual, and bear a crop of fruit. Fascinating is the game of gardening. The devotee is always on the anxious seat as to how a crop of flowers will turn out, or as to the behaviour of a newcomer.

One of the odd flowers in the Wernigk Garden is a clump of Anigozanthus manglesii. The flowers are borne at the top of a scape a foot high, covered with a red tomentum. Of all the flowers I know anything about this one is the most peculiar. It has no petals. The upper part of it is a broad lip of vivid green, the stamens short and grow on the margin of the lip. Years ago I got a pound of seed, sowed it in the open about April 1st in two rows. Those plants were in full bloom by August, and were a wonder to behold. I never succeeded in making one live when transplanted. The one under discussion came from the Bureau of Plant Industry, and I'm wondering how long it will live. Again I say, gardening is a fascinating game. A fellow is always on a high wave of expectation and anticipation.

A Cudrania plant in the Garden shows an unusual crop of flowers, and if the fruit sets it will be a gorgeous sight when it is ripe.

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Bright red and the size of hulled walnuts, they are the delight of birds when fully mature. Let's hope that Nurserymen will propagate and sell it for hedges in this Southland. Certainly it will be an improvement on Privet, on account of its strict evergreen character. If any readers of these lines care to try Sutherlandia frutescens I think I can get a few seeds for play with the temperamental subject. The unique seed pods are inflated, and float on water as do little ducks.

TWO USEFUL MANZANITAS

There are, native to California, two delightful little manzanitas seldom found in gardens. Both are dwarf spreading species, especially desirable for large rock gardens, for the edges of woods, for covering banks and for the types of foundation planting which call for something low, evergreen and informal. Where the summers are hot and the light very strong, these little manzanitas should be given half or three-fourths shade. They will happily endure sea air, wind and poor, stony soil but rebel against heavy damp ground and intensely strong sunlight. Both these Arctostaphylos species are endemic to central California. They are such desirable little shrubs that it is surprising to find them so little known.

Arctostaphylos hookeri forms natural colonies in the coastal woods and on the bluffs of the San Francisco region and for about one hundred miles southward. Where beaten upon by ocean winds it lies prostrate but in the shelter of the adjacent woods it grows in dense masses a foot or two high. Along the coast it is particularly attractive, sprawling loosely over the cliffs and throwing its little crooked red-brown branches across the sand or rocks. The tiny shining leaves are rather scattered and show the lovely stems up to good advantage. In early spring the plants bear many clusters of waxy pink-white flowers, of the characteristic urn-shape of all the heath family, and follows them with hundreds of tiny rust-brown berries.

A. pumila has a more limited habitat and is found only on the Monterey Peninsula. It grows best in sandy soil where it makes dense round masses six or more feet in diameter and growing to eighteen inches or two feet high at the center. As the stems root at the joints they can be easily propagated. A. pumila has a small gray-green leaf and white flowers. Its berries are the prettiest of all the manzanitas,—white, pink-cheeked and remaining plump and fresh for a long time. This little spreading shrub is most valuable and attractive and should be in frequent use for holding loose banks and dunes where the sand has a slight addition of humus.

All the Manzanitas are evergreens. This genus has many delightful species, some absolutely prostrate such as the world-wide A. uva-ursi and the lovely Pine-mat Manzanita (A. nevadensis of our Sierras. Others, small-leaved manzaanitas like A. sensitiva, A. myrtifolia and A. nummularia form bushes several feet high. Each of these last three species is limited in its habitat. Then there are the large-leaved bush or tree-like manzanitas with which we are more familiar. All have their gardening uses and are coming more and more into recognition and favor.

Lester Rowntree,
Carmel, Calif.

GARDEN CONTEST

With the spring flower show a pleasant memory, the next activity to engage the attention of the members of the Floral Association is the Garden Contest.

Arrangements have been made with the Dunning, Harris, and Millar stores to receive entries for the contest. All who previously have entered their gardens in the contest are urged to do so again, and as many new entries as possible are desired. The entries should be made promptly as the spring judging should soon be under way.

There will be a fall judging as well but none during the summer. The same classification of gardens into large, medium and small will be followed and the rules previously sanctioned will prevail.

There are several reasons why a large number of gardens should be entered this year. The results of the contest naturally indicate those gardens in which good practices are followed and they may be considered models of their type and of educational value. The contest stimulates the beautification of our city. Lastly, the contest helps to keep up our gardening morale and dispel the apathy which is so prone to attack us when we are beset by weighty economic problems as at present.

Let us all, then, lend our aid and cooperate to the end that the garden contest this year may be the success everything touched by the San Diego Floral Association should be.

Mrs. Burnham is in charge of the contest. Information concerning it can be secured from her, from the stores previously indicated, or by telephoning to Paul V. Tuttle at Hillcrest 6642.

Paul V. Tuttle.

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

The California Garden

Editor
Silas B. Osborn
Associate Editor
Walter S. Merrill

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GARDEN FAIR

"Come to the Fair," is the invitation given to all garden lovers, by the Southern California Garden Club. They will hold a Garden Fair, May 5, 6 and 7, at the Larkspur Gardens, 15943 Valley Vista Boulevard, Van Nuys, California. There will be a real market scene, with gay booths displaying their wares of potted plants, cut flowers, colorful pottery, clever garden accessories, garden wearing apparel, garden books new and helpful, studio exhibits, rare plant displays from several commercial nurseries, as well as many choice plants and flowers to be shown by the club members. Under garden umbrellas in the lovely Larkspur Gardens of the club president, Mrs. H. C. Quest and her daughter, Mrs. Marian Toy, tables will be set where tea will be served.

This Garden Fair is to be quite delightful, and a cordial invitation is given to all to come. The location, just off the main highway, will be well marked with placards.

Dorothy Louise Black,
Publicity Chairman.

WISTERIA WEEK AT ROSECROFT

Wisteria Week will long be remembered for the bounteous beauty of the aged wisteria vine that draped the roof of the Robinson lath-garden, for the myriads of primulas that gave back the color from masses so gracefully arranged in this famous garden, for the spirit of graciousness that was full flowered for the entire week.

Many San Diegans who have long ago identified themselves with the constructive and truly cultural life of the city, came to assist with the hospitality extended to all who came to see and add their mite to the benefit for the Floral Association, made possible by the courtesy of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred D. Robinson.

Mrs. Mary A. Greer, president of the Floral Association, was not only hostess every day, but her delight in the success of the event was so contagious that she inspired every one from the time she arrived until she counted the money at the end of each afternoon. Through her tireless effort each afternoon offered a lecture by an authority on some subject related to flowers and gardens.

Wisteria Week opened Saturday, March 26th. The hostesses who presided at the tea table that day were: Mrs. Mary A. Greer, Mrs. Hugh Ross, Mrs. John Nuttall, Mrs. Paul Tuttle and Miss Smelzer. Rare Iris was beautifully arranged on the tea table.

Mr. Alfred D. Robinson was speaker for the afternoon, taking for his subject, "The Enclosed Garden."

On Sunday Chula Vista was well represented in the large list of hostesses that greeted visitors and offered them a cup of tea about a table that was bright, yet dainty with petunias, ageratum and forget-me-not. They were: Mrs. C. W. Darling, Mrs. Erman J. Ridgway, Mrs. Hamilton Clark, Mrs. H. B. Payton, Mrs. Marston Burnham, Miss Alice Holiday, Miss Emily Clayton, Mrs. S. A. Durr and Mrs. Raymond Low.

Tea was always served in the new garden library just completed and adding the last word in enclosed gardens. Each afternoon the hostesses had valuable assistance from the Robinson children and their little friends, all in Japanese costume, flitting like butterflies as they served the tea. Mrs. Robinson often came out to greet the guests sometimes bringing with her the finest flower of the garden, master "Mickie."

Monday, Mrs. John Burnham, Mrs. Fred Scripps and Mrs. George Gardner poured tea. Their table carried a color scheme of pink and lavendar, using snap dragon and wisteria. Monday was Federation of Clubs Day, Mrs. Hunt of the Garden Department, gave a talk on the tree planting program of the clubs.

Tuesday the hostesses were: Mrs. Erskine J. Campbell, Mrs. Maurice Braun, Mrs. Fred

Gazlay, Mrs. Fred Henking, Mrs. Frank Webster and Miss Laura Brewster. The table was springtime in motif, Mrs. Campbell brought a gay variety of blooms from Alpine, and arranged them in a low green bowl on a Persian print table cover that reflected the colors of the flowers in a somewhat deeper tone. Miss Sessions gave the talk on Tuesday, her subject, "Wisteria, Japanese, Chinese and American."

Wednesday was Coronado Day, the hostesses were Mrs. Armond Jessop, Mrs. Harold Taylor, Miss McIver and Mrs. Dwight Peterson. The tea table was again beautiful with spring blooms on cream linen, with silver candelabra. Miss Alice Rainford gave a delightful talk about arranging flowers. She made many arrangements, from the simplicity of Japanese to lilacs and roses, then gave valued information about making corsages, making many for the guests.

Thursday the hostesses were Mrs. Robert Morrison, Miss Etta and Miss Lydia Schweider, Miss Perry, and Miss Inez Anderson. The color scheme of their tea table was cream and cold, cream linen and a golden bowl of garden flowers of harmonizing color. Thursday, Mr. Robinson made his appearance in the spirit of fun, he appeared with high hat, white gloves and the general air of a showman, then with his characteristic wit, removed his gloves and gave a demonstration in potting begonias—his subject might be said to have been, "You Can't Be a Gardener and Wear Gloves."

Friday closed this historic week. The hostesses were Miss Alice Halliday, Miss Alice Lee, Miss Teats, Mrs. Robert Morrison, Mrs. Mary A. Greer and Mrs. John Clark. Their table was beautiful, combining dark blue larkspur, iris and white sweet peas—on cream linen. Mr. Robinson gave the final lecture, full of wit and valuable information from the man who has evolved the most unique garden with the finest collection of begonias in the world.—H. B. B.

SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION NEW MEMBERS

Mr. John Wimmer, Chula Vista.
Mrs. Sarah E. Gunn, Carlsbad, Calif.
Mr. Luther G. Miller, San Diego.
Mr. C. G. Tanner, Rancho Santa Fe.
Mr. B. J. Komiskey, Tomah, Wis.
Miss Frances Moulton, La Jolla.
Miss Flora B. Wilcox, San Diego.
Miss Agnes M. Barrington, Park Manor.
Miss M. Josephine Reilly, Park Manor.
Mrs. Maria Wilkes, Los Angeles.
Miss Jennie Peck, San Diego.
Wsesojusnaja Slch, BIBLIOTEKA, Bol Zlatoustinskii 6, Moskwa, SSSR.

MINUTES OF MARCH MEETING

A large and appreciative audience welcomed Mrs. Helen King, well known as the editor of the floral section of the Los Angeles Times, at the March meeting of the San Diego Floral Association. Mrs. King gave a well planned talk on gardens illustrated with beautifully colored slides. Starting with views of L'Enfant's original plan for Washington, D. C., and the well planned city of Beverly Hills as examples of proper planning she showed illustrations on the development of pools, walls and flower and shrub plantings. It was interesting to note that many of the slides were scenes of her garden and specimen plants of our own dear Kate Sessions. It was a lecture filled with color and beauty of which Mrs. King herself was a charming part.

Mrs. Mary A. Greer, president of the Association conducted the meeting and Miss Kate Sessions was at her best in her delightful introduction of specimen plants, a feature which is always a delight to the members.

APRIL WEATHER IN SAN DIEGO COUNTY

Dean Blake, Meteorologist

The mean temperature for April is about two degrees higher than that of March, the greatest increase being found in the average daily minimums which are noticeably higher than those of the preceding months. Freezing temperatures are practically unknown except in the higher elevations, and frosts in the agricultural districts have occurred only on one or two occasions in the last 30 years. Winds from the east or northeast, dynamically heated, at times prevail, and then temperatures are above 80 degrees or even 90 degrees. These warm spells are invariably accompanied by moderate winds and abnormally low relative humidities, so they are not oppressive. Their undesirability lies in their dessicating properties, ground, pastures, ranges and crops drying readily when they obtain.

April usually inaugurates the summer cloudiness so characteristic of the littoral regions. Warmer weather over the interior results in reduced atmospheric pressure, and an indraught of moist cooled air from the ocean results. This is condensed by the cold California current, which moves southward along the coast, by cooling the air directly over it, and a bank of low stratus clouds form.

Showers, rather than prolonged rains, predominate, and only 4 days with measureable rain may be expected. The average precipitation in the city is .68 inch; in the moun-

tains it is about 3 inches. Once, in 1926, the monthly total in the city was 5.37 inches, but amounts over an inch are rare.

The average wind velocity is large, 7.3 miles per hour, but gales or high winds are unknown. The average amount of sunshine is 68% of the possible, which is ample for all purposes.

FUCHSIAS

By Bertha M. Thomas

Our new "old time" favorites are just now starting into budding season. Of course, some varieties are like poor people, that is always with us, summer or winter, never out of bloom, but the summer bloomers are particularly strong this year because of their unusually good winter rest.

The National Fuchsia Society, only two years old now numbers 189 members. There are many members who have collections of 90 varieties but they do not excel as a flower show exhibit since they are at their best just in between the spring and fall shows. Many new English varieties have been imported, some excellent, some nothing to brag of, and we feel just a little proud that the old Mother Country cannot go very far ahead of us. One of the officials of the National Society who spent last summer in England wrote us that she spoke of the Diamant to one Fuchsia grower there, and he had never heard of it, while we Americans consider it one of our standard good varieties.

The culture of Fuchsias is fast spreading. We have one director at Avalon, Catalina Island, and he reports two garden lovers who have 90 varieties making good growth, and gardening on the Island is in its infancy.

New varieties are constantly coming. The Hazard firm of Pacific Grove are large and enthusiastic hybridizers; but any one who wishes to spend time and patience can easily grow new varieties from seed, although personally we think it much cheaper to buy for the small sum which these new beauties will be sold you by the growers.

Fuchsias are easily grown, if one will only give them their personal wants, shade, moisture, rich soil, and not much cultivating. Their root system is shallow, which accounts for their dislike of any digging near them. Pruning severely is an essential, but of course, must be done during dormant season. If vigorously cut back one will be surprised at the strong new growth. One of ours of the Gracilis type, is so heavy that some birds chose it for a nesting place, unknown to us until we just discovered two beautiful blue eggs there and would never have known their existence except that mother bird "fussed" at me when near the Fuchsia.

FOOD AND HERB MARKETS OF THE FLOWER VILLAGES

By Ruth R. Nelson

It is during the months of March and April, when the many clans of our loveliest coastal wildflowers return to their own chosen flower villages, that we are able to study the innumerable food-plants of the Indians, and the much-used herbs, all of which make a brave annual attempt to survive in Southern California despite enterprising subdividers and highway builders.

Authorities declare that sixty-six different wild plants were constantly used by the natives for food; while the medicinal uses of many others were so well-known to them that they were able to pass along invaluable information about these to the early settlers. Numbers of these useful plants choose to live in circumscribed "flower villages" where they seem to carry on a certain social life which is apparently essential to their growth. For it is noticed that the disappearance of any one member from these wild gardens prefaces the loss of all of them.

Meadows and hillsides covered with lavender carpets of the important Brodiaea capitata ("choofa nuts" or grass nuts) are also always the home of the dainty shooting star, the upstanding Camassias, wild onion, and our rare Chocolate Fritillaria, first called the "Mission Bell" by an early gringo settler. Later on these same sloping "villages" will be peopled with thousands of Golden Stars interspersed with lavendar mariposas, the blue of Ithuriel's Spears, magenta spikes of Owl's Clover and brilliant patches of Erythraea.

On northern slopes where the flower villages are shaded, and silver-back ferns, or brakes and maidenhair are hiding, we will be apt to find slender-stemmed yellow violets and crisp sprawling plants of wild heliotrope growing in the shelter of the low hillside bushes. And wherever we see golden poppies crowding into old cleared spaces, there we will also discover the poppies' second cousin the dainty cream cup. Blue lupins love to spring up near the poppies, and this entire village will be margined with thousands of fragrant little pop-corn flowers. Every country road is outlined by the saucy bush-sunflower which creeps up the hillsides to shade the yuccas, already preparing to show their wonderful "Lord's Candles." Nearby we are sure to find innumerable plants of Hen-and-Chickens (Dudleya Sheldoni of the Stonecrop Family) sending up long slender blossom stalks which absorb their flower sustenance from the plant's frosty-green rosette of thick-

ened leaves which were used by the Indians to make soothing poultices, or its watery juice used as an astringent.

Amongst the plants already mentioned the Indians found many which were useful to them, and their ingenious methods of preparing foods and medicines with some of these well-known flowers and plants lends to our hillside flower villages an atmosphere of solid background which no one can ever separate from the story of the early days of California, intertwined as they are with the lives of the Mission Indians.

In California, as in every other part of America, no one lives more close to Nature than the Indian. Nothing which lives and grows evades his close scrutiny and investigation. His curiosity has led him to examine and test every wild herb and plant. Frequently it has been compelling hunger which led him to make use of these for food. And by this natural method the Indian's stomach became the laboratory where all of the vegetable medicines he used first demonstrated their action. However, it is known that the California Indians paid strict attention to their diet, and also to their way of eating and drinking. Both hot and cold foods were never taken at the same time; and although they were extremely gluttonous whenever an opportunity presented itself, yet they frequently fasted.

Because the Brodiaea (capitata) or wild blue hyacinth is so well-known, and is also one of the few wildflowers which can be (sparingly) gathered, we believe it to be one of the most interesting of the valued food plants which the Indians discovered growing in the flower villages. Springing up, early in the rainy season, from between two long slender grass-like leaves which quickly wither the blossoms of the brodiaea are among the first to grace the southern hillsides. They will grow anywhere, but seem to prefer a thick soil of gray clay, and cover such patches of ground with a thick carpet of their nodding clusters. Bulbs of the brodiaea were called "choofa nuts" by the Indians and were rated as one of their favorite foods. In Father Juan Crespi's journal of Portola's march from San Diego to search for the port of Monterey—that manuscript wherein Father Crespi pays to the flowers of California repeated tribute, the good padre speaks repeatedly of the large baskets of "choofa nuts" brought by the Indians to the Spaniards' camps. Like the corms of the Mariposa (the yellow Calochortus lutens, or the lilac Calochortus splendens), bulbs of the brodiaea were eaten either raw, or cooked. They have a nutlike flavor and are said to be very nutritious.

When good fortune has taken you to view the famous golden poppy fields of Antelope Valley, or even when a sudden patch of these brilliant wild blossoms has perhaps caught your attention elsewhere, do you ever see the clear "vision of a white head, a thin ascetic old face, a lean figure limpingly trailing a brown robe; slender white hands clasping a heavy cross; heard the music of worship—blended voices, bells and the songs of mocking birds nest-making among the tunas"—and then recalled that oft-repeated story of the day when the saintly Father Junipera Serra paid California's first tribute to the most gorgeous of all wildflowers? It was in 1769, when the three Spanish expeditions, ordered to Alta California by the King himself, had finally arrived at San Diego. The end of the long trail had brought these weary travelers to the shore of a tranquil bay set amidst peaceful hills which sheltered innumerable Indian rancherias. Father Serra, who was destined to foster not only the spiritual but the temporal welfare of the early Mission settlements, was filled with joy as he stood upon the mesa above San Diego Bay. Stooping, he picked a golden poppy and touched it to his lips: "Copa de Ora" he exclaimed. "The Cup of Gold, the Holy Grail! I have found it!" So our California poppies (Eschscholtzia Californica) were first known among the Spanish settlers as "Copa de Ora." Later they were called by another Spanish term, "Dormi dera," which means "a sleeper" and given to the poppy because its flower-habits keep its petals tightly folded unless the sun is shining.

It was David Douglass, a young Scotch botanist who came to California in 1830 for two years of plant and seed-collecting for the Royal Horticultural Society of London, "who gave the California poppy to the gardening world." It is still cherished in many English and European gardens, and it is true that for several generations Eschscholtzia Californica remained better known and appreciated abroad than it was upon its native continent.

The Indians made some limited use of the poppy plant for food. The foliage was boiled or roasted by means of hot stones, and afterward laid in water before it was eaten as greens. The early Californians prepared a much-prized hair oil by frying the entire poppy plant in olive oil and adding some chosen perfume. They believed this preparation kept the hair glossy and promoted its growth.

Other wild plants eaten as "greens" by the Indians were Indian lettuce which they ate greedily, watercress, wild celery, pepper grass, mustard after its introduction by the Mission

fathers; and wild sweet-clover which was so well-liked that the natives frequently threw themselves upon the ground where this was growing and gorged themselves upon the fragrant, juicy foliage.

In almost every flower village there is one small native plant, humbly inconspicuous, yet having such determined habits that it is considered a pest by the farmers of today when it covers their pasture lands. This is the lowly grass-iris Sisyrinchium bellum) or "blue-eyed grass." The Spanish Californians called this "Azullea" or "Villela" and used the plant to make a tea which they considered an excellent remedy for fevers. They believed a patient could subsist for many days upon this diet alone.

Spanish Californians are also credited with making use of Wild Heliotrope (Phacelia tanacetifolia) which they called "Vervenia." The leaves of this plant contain a mucilaginus juice, and were dried by the early settlers and used by them as a cure for wounds, both of men and animals. The dried powder was blown into the injured part.

Yerba Mansa, that queer, up-standing, white-flowered plant which covers marshy places near the coast, was another herb used in cases of infection. The Indians and also the Spanish Californians sent, or would travel long distances to obtain this plant when it was needed.

Leaving the lily-scented slopes and the flower villages of the meadows, let us take a way which leads us along past low-growing hillside plants and brush. Gray sage, cardinal mimilus, fragrant blue nightshade, graceful tufts of yellow-blossomed deerweed, all crowded in a tumbled mass of lovely color such as only Mother Nature can achieve. Or perhaps there are wild sweetpeas with trailing stems and spikes of gay magenta flowers, entwining every thorny little scrub-oak bush. And this is the hillside where we will see innumerable clumps of the common bush-sunflower, one of that great Composite Family which furnishes tonics, stimulants, food, forage, oils, dyes, poisons, medicines and beverages. The Bush Sunflower (Encelia Californica) brightens the wayside during every season of the year, with its sturdy, "black-eyed Susan" blossoms. Stems and branches of this plant exude a resinous gum which was chewed by Indian children, and made into a varnish by their elders. The Mexicans warmed this substance and used it in poultices.

On these same hillsides many yuccas are doubtless budding; the yucca whipplei with its low plant of narrow grass-like leaves and tall flower stem, and also the common Spanish Bayonet or wild date (Yucca Mohavensis) whose blossoms are not as conspicuous although they are quite as waxy and fragrant as those of the whipplei.

The Indians made use of the yucca in many ways. They stripped off the blossoms and boiled them in their cooking baskets by dropping hot stones into these water tight containers. The stalks were then roasted in their earthen ovens which they contrived by digging a pit, placing large stones in it to be heated by a fire built over them. When the stones were hot the yucca stalks were laid upon them, covered with a layer of grass and then earth to keep in the warmth. The undeveloped flowering stalks were considered as a great delicacy, either raw or prepared as a mescal. To make mescal the Indians gathered large numbers of plants at a certain stage of growth, stripped off the leaves leaving round masses which were baked in the same manner as were the flower stalks. When the baked mescal was taken out it looked something like a baked apple, and was of the same consistency, a sweet soft pulp with coarse white fibers. When allowed to mature the fruit of the yucca is ripe in August and September, and its sweet, succulent flesh made it also a favorite food of the Indians who ate it raw, or dried, and ground into flour.

Soap was made of the yucca by cutting the large flower stems into slices, and beating these into a pulp. Leaves of the yucca were parched in hot ashes to make them pliable, then soaked in water and pounded with a mallet to liberate the long fibers which are so strong and durable that they lend themselves satisfactorily to the weaving of nets, sandals, blankets, ropes, baskets and many other useful articles.

Since the yuccas of California were among the first native plants which received general protection by law, their increasing numbers have undoubtedly furnished one of the best-liked blossoms seen amidst the chaparral. The tall stalks of the yucca whipplei, holding their fragrant burdens of ivory-like flowers, stand like sentinels on the hillsides, and fortunately no longer suggest "food" to the Californians of today. As the flowers drop away and the seeds develop the mother-plant shrivels and dies, having given its life to the development of the blossom, although the yucca reproduces itself readily from seed.

The pollination of the yucca is uniquely provided for by the yucca moth, upon which the plant is entirely dependent. The flowers are incapable of transferring their own pollen from the anthers to the stigma, and because the pollen is usually sticky, even the wind cannot assist the plant in reproduction. However, just at the time of the yucca's flowering, the yucca moth comes from its cocoon in the ground at the base of the plant, making use

of a stout spine upon its head to thrust its way upward. The female moth flys from one freshly opened flower to another, scraping a load of pollen from each opened anther, and shaping this into a ball. This process she repeats until her accumulated burden is two or three times larger than her head. Then, clasping her ball of pollen tightly, beneath her throat, she flys to another flower, or perhaps chooses still another plant, and proceeds to hide her eggs within the walls of a seed-pod where her larvae will find nourishment. Pronumba maculata is the moth which serves to pollinate our beautiful yucca whipplei, though the many species of yucca each have their own particular species of moth for this process.

Like all other yuccas, the whipplei has "off" years in certain districts, when very few blossoming plants may be seen. At these times scientists have been able to prove that during this off season not all of the yucca moths come forth. Some hold over for a second, third or even a fourth year, when the blossoms may again be numerous. This means that the most queenly blossom to be found in the flower villages of our southern hillsides, must depend for its continued life upon this one particularly faithful insect. The widespread pollination carried on, in the wild gardens of the chaparral, by insects, wind, birds and bees (the latter, by the way, being nnknown in California until long after the days of the mescal feasts) has nothing whatever to do with the yucca. Its sturdy survival has ever been due to the specialized process planned by Mother Nature for the yucca itself.

"Among the greasewood's close, unordered ranks
. . . . the yucca rise
Like cool, white flame: tapering, scented souls
The waste-land offers beauty to the skies."

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KOLKWITZIA AMABILIS

On April 1st a short visit to Mrs. Strong's home near Ramona gave me a great surprise. The Kolkwitzia amabilis found in China by Mr. E. H. Wilson and raised at the Arnold Arboretum in Boston, Mass., has been one of the outstanding new shrubs of late years. Mr. Wilson considered it his choicest shrub introduction and named it the Beauty Bush. Its description was so fascinating that I ordered 50 small plants from Massachusetts some four years ago and grew them very hopefully in the nursery and two plants at my own home. The results were poor, they were deciduous in the winter and showed no vigor. Mrs. Strong decided to try it, setting them out three years ago. Her reports of the plant were that it looked well but had no buds and not so very vigorous.

I read up on its habits and decided it needed a real cold winter. I gave my own two plants, 2½ feet high and bushy and spreading, to Mr. Frank Garrettson to plant at his Pine Valley garden, hoping for some results better than Mrs. Strong had. Today at Mrs. Strong's garden it was my very first request to see the Beauty Bush and to her surprise and my delight we found two of them full of buds and just one blossom open and her two other plants smaller but vigorous and no signs of buds. It is evident that some age is required for the wood to bloom.

The flowers resemble the Abelia and about its size but is borne in profusion the entire length of the 3-foot branching stems. The buds were all pink tinted on the outside and I did expect the open flower to show some color as the description is of a pale pink, but the one I saw was quite white but not a snow white. These two budded plants stand four feet high and are quite gracefully spreading and illustrations and descriptions all refer to it as a graceful, spreading shrub.

All owners of mountain homes or locations where there is considerable cold will welcome this attractive flowering shrub. One new customer said to me, "There is one shrub I must have in my garden, the Beauty Bush, do you know it?" I answered, "Yes, I know it is a failure here."

I have often said that the hotel keepers of our mountain sections should make a real effort to plant the many beautiful plants that are a great success where it is cold in the winter. An acre of lilacs, peonies, snowballs, high bush cranberry, deutzias and now this Beauty Bush and when in bloom everyone able to ride to these favorite old time flower gardens would be sure to make the trip, buy a good bunch of the flowers, have dinner and come home happy with their old friends.

—K. O. Sessions.

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MARCH GARDEN VISIT

On Sunday afternoon, March 6th, the Floral Association visited the home of Miss K. O. Sessions at Soledad Terrace, Pacific Beach. It was a fine day and after the heavy winter rains, the trees and shrubs were looking fine. About one hundred visitors came, generally in small groups and Miss Sessions piloted them around and explained her interesting plants.

In front of the house which faces east is a fine specimen of Leucadendron argentium or Silver Tree from Table Mountain at Cape Town, South Africa. It is seven feet tall and has soft silver gray foliage and at present has five buds. Also a group of mixed Ericas or heathers and another group of mixed Ceanothus or wild lilac, which were in extra fine bloom.

On the south side were creeping Junipers, which are used instead of a lawn for ground cover. Below were some new Acacias that are a great joy to her. A. pubescens, a tall slender tree in full bloom. It has a very small gray green lace-like foliage and large clusters of very small blossoms, in cold countries it is grown under glass for its fine flowers. A. leptoclada a tall upright tree with small foliage and long sprays of which the individual balls are quite large and a dark yellow color and when gazing overhead and seeing them against the blue of the sky is indeed a beautiful sight, a very promising large shrub. A. prominens now in full bloom, a very fast growing, tall tree of good size which may need careful trimming after blooming each year. A. lineata a bushy sort, sprays of which were given to each visitor.

On the west side of the house are many varieties of Aloes, Agaves, Cactus and Mesembryanthemums from many localities and all do nicely with a minimum of care. They are grown among cobble stones which prevent the rains from covering up the smaller ones with soil. One of these in which she takes pride in showing is a walk covered with Mesembryanthemum filicaulis, a small thread-like iceplant, which is covered with small lavender blossoms in the winter. This she calls "My flowery path of ease," for it requires very little care and takes root as it spreads.

Beyond to the west is a large lath house filled with many interesting plants, one which every one enjoyed was a vine called Hardenbergia comptoniana, it was covered with small purple pea flowers and is a good winter bloomer. Another excellent vine was called Gelsemium sempervirens or wild Caroline Jessamine. A moderate growing vine with bright yellow flowers from top to bottom. On heavy soil, winter blooming plants should have plenty of leafmould or peat in the soil, for air in the soil is equally as important as moisture.

On the north side is a hedge of guavas and many ornamental flowering fruit trees.

Those who can see beauty only in the formal garden may be disappointed here, but to those who love gardens "A la natural" for a semi-arid climate should see for themselves how such a garden can be made interesting.

Dewey Kelly.

A VISIT TO FAIRYLAND

By C. I. Jerabek

The week between March 26 and April 1st at the Rosecroft Lathed Garden was called "Wisteria Week"; it was opened to the public every day from 2:00 until 5:00 P. M., the admission charge being twenty-five cents; all monies derived were given for the benefit of the San Diego Floral Association because the owners believed that the support of such a worthy organization should not be overlooked even in these hard times.

Even Aladdin with his lamp and wonderful ring had nothing on us when on Saturday, March 26, we visited Rosecroft Lathed Garden. We first strolled over to the entrance way, where rambling over the roof was a magnificent evergreen Pandorea pandorana (Wonga-Wonga Vine) covered with its many small flowers, yellowish-white, spotted with purple. Underneath in a little alcove is a large Chinese gong which quickly brought the Father of the Fairies who admitted us to Fairyland.

We stood as if in a maze, rubbing our eyes, for before us was a most incredible sight. Around us we heard exclamations. Beautiful! Marvelous! Wonderful! Lovely, lovely, lovely! Boy! Oh Boy! Isn't that nice! Overhead we beheld a sight unsurpassed for beauty and picturesqueness, a large deep lavender flowering wisteria running hither and thither with its delicate flowers, while underneath were beds of Fibrous and Rex begonias, those dainty Primula malacoides (baby primroses) and in the immediate foreground a Strelitzia reginae with its green leathery foliage and interesting, curiously formed yellow and purple flowers, creeping on the ground and over rocks were Helxine soleiroli moss, Fuchsia procumbens and Campanula fragilis. In hanging baskets were various types of Adiantums (maidenhair ferns).

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

We wandered along the many paths, here a Podocarpus nerifolia stretching through the roof to seek more room to spread out its foliage; nearby a Sequoia sempervirens (California redwood) and a Fatsia japonica that have also gone sky larking.

In a glasshouse we saw thirty varieties of fancy-leaved Caladiums in rich, gorgeous, yet soft coloring of reds, white, green and purple. Although the ladies all had on their Easter gowns, I noticed many an envious glance at the marvelous combinations of colors in the leaves of these plants. Amongst the rocks along the edge of the bed were those delicate, deep purple African violets (Saintpaulia ionanthus) and ground moss (Selaginella).

While sauntering in the lathhouse we came to a large Podocarpus elongata, in fact it is the largest one in San Diego, having a trunk diameter of eight inches. The seed was collected by Steward Edward White on his trip to South Africa and was raised by Franchetti of Santa Barbara, California, and later found its way to this spot.

In the center of the garden there is a small building used as a library. Here were comfortable chairs, ample room to sit and write or to read the many interesting magazines and books. Hanging from a rafter was a blue bird cage; inside two blue parroquets to match. On the table a bowl of Iris in all their loveliness. Outside the west door there is a circle of Arecastrum romanzoffianum (Cocos Plumosa Palms) the space in the circle was provided with chairs where the guests reclined while Mr. A. D. Robinson gave a very interesting talk on "Gardening."

On one side of this open court were many varieties of fuchsias, lower down seedling hydrangeas, those delightful Nemesia, in many shades, intermixed with Mexican Calceolarias and here and there a Myosotis (Forget-me-not). While on the opposite side were masses of ferns, ranging in size from the large tree types to the smaller Pteris. Around the pillars were Fuchsia arborea (Tree Fuchsia) and Semele androgyna (Climbing Butchers' Broom) the growth resembling the tapeworm vine. Climbing up the walls were eight varieties of clematis jackmani hybrids. A bed of pansies bordered with Agrostis nebulosa (Cloud Grass) was in the foreground.

During the afternoon we saw several fairies dressed in Japanese costumes; they tended the gate and later helped the ladies serve tea and wafers to the guests. We do not know what was in the tea, but before we left, some of us were seeing double, we saw some double Cinerarias and Nasturtiums (Golden Gleam) distinctly double in form.

And though the begonias were not at their best we were all amply repaid for our visit by seeing the many other delightful flowers and plants.

OUR NATIVE SHRUBS

By K. O. Sessions

The Ceanothus (Wild Lilac), most conspicuous at the eastern end of the Mussey grade leading to Ramona on April 1st, was the variety divaricatus, and the C. integerrimus was quite out of bloom and setting seed quite heavily. The former has a roundish light green leaf, while integerrimus has a small dark green leaf and the shrub is of lower growth and more spreading. Plants of these two varieties have been particularly fine at the U. S. Government Horticultural Station on the Torrey Pines Road this past month. The one in my own garden, divaricatus, has flowered well but the growth has been very scraggly. It would be best held up and supported to make a shapely bush. The native plants on the Mussey grade were very shapely and attractive. The very bushy white flowering variety along the crest of Point on the Torrey Pines road and all the way to Del Mar is a January bloomer and is C. Vericosa, referring to the warty growth on its stems. There is a slender growing white one along the Mussey grade that has a very naked stem and a small bushy top. The plants were all 8 to 10 feet high. This variety was not in bloom April 1st and was new to me and must be determined. Our native shrubs are so fine we should know every local one and cultivate them more generously. The Rhus Ovata was particularly conspicuous with its very glossy foliage and bunchy white flowers. It is unfortunate that it does not flourish near the coast, for it is such a fine complement to our coast variety, Rhus integrifolia. The very dark blue and late flowering C. Cyaneus is a botanical and horticultural treasure and the few isolated specimens are never seen by the general public. Its cultivation, however, grown from seed, is very desirable and is being more generously planted each year. Now at the first of April the buds are setting rapidly for it is a much earlier bloomer and this wet season has insured a fine growth. The sprays of flowers are very large, 12 to 18 inches long. The color a very dark blue. This variety very often has a second crop of flowers two or three weeks after the first crop.

Ceanothus Arboreo, a native of the Santa Cruz Island opposite Santa Barbara, is a very large growing shrub which can be easily directed to form a good small tree. The flowers are light blue and very abundant and the foliage is handsome. This particular variety flourishes along the coast and should be used as a highway tree from San Diego to Oceanside

at least. Also with it the January White bloomer, the shrubby yellow tree poppy, Dendromecon rigidum.

All these native plants require no water or care through the summer and fall but flourish with abundant winter rains. If our rains are short, we should then water them in the winter. Native plants will not flourish with waterings in the summer and fall and so they should occupy a section of the garden where their special needs will be respected.

CALIFORNIA STILL AHEAD

By Bertha M. Thomas

Coming to San Diego eight years ago and finding many of our middle-west favorites not grown here, we had several sent to us from the old home. One especial favorite was the Japanese Udo, imported into the United States about fifteen years ago in the hope of its being used as a substitute for asparagus. I obtained ten plants from the Government and they were beautiful plants when grown, but not a success as asparagus because of a rather strong flavor unless most carefully bleached. They grew 10 to 12 feet tall with immense stalks, and leaves three feet long and fully as wide and beautifully cut. The shoots grew like Jack's bean stalk when the winter freeze released them and they were a glorious success as a tropical specimen plant; but the roots went down deep, trying possibly to go through back to their native land. But they did not like our California warm winters and neither Miss Sessions nor the Park people were any more successful than we in making them grow here. Many Illinois garden residents were like failures, but one old standby held on to life, although refusing to bloom. This was one of the Ranunculus, which we Easterners called Bachelor Buttons, growing about two feet high and with a rich colorful mass of its small golden buttons. The surprise, however, is that it is now blooming because of our near-east winter and the fact that it received its longed for cold. But even at that it is only nine inches high and only a few blooms, and we may never have another cold winter (we hope we will not).

We have so many proofs all the time that our time, efforts and money are so much better spent on the plant life suited to our climate. The list is so enormous and constantly growing. The more tropicals we grow, the more of these easterners will come to rave, and revel in our California beauties.

In the east they are just uncovering their waterpools to see if lilies, etc., are still alive, while here even tropical lilies are in bloom.

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WATER AND EARTH

A Fantasy

By Peter D. Barnhart

Water is King, the Earth his Queen. When he moves with majestic step, and regal stride by the side of his consort, from the shores of the sunset sea, across valley and plain to mountain heights, and, with lavish hand covers the face of the Queen, and wets her bosom with the life giving fluid she looks up into his face, smiles with delight and, yielding to his loving caress, brings forth fruit and flowers for the happiness of the children of men. This fruitage for those who dwell upon Valley and Plain. It is his mission to make the "wilderness, and the solitary place" glad because of his presence, and to make the ,'desert rejoice and blossom as the rose." With jealous care the mountain heights enfold the King in their arms. With persuasive speech they invite him to abide with them. As Kings are wont to do when listening to the musical voice, and beguiling speech of Queens, he tarries for a night; a day, or perchance several days, and in gallant mood covers her body with a robe, pure and white;

soft and fluffy as thought it were made of Eider Down. Covered comfortably in such fashion, she sleeps peacefully for a time. E're long the warmth of her body melts the covering and, magician that she is, reverts it to its original form; the form of a King. Again he returns to his appointed task; that of covering his consort with a garment of verdure of various hues. Then it is that he shows his versatile character, his whimsical disposition, his love of doing a great work, of prodigious size. The result: the sturdy Oak, the towering Pine, the fragrant California Laurel—Umbellularia californica. Like unto all his Clan, he finds delight in the beauty of rich adornments of his female friends. Forthwith he sets flowing silver streams of musical waters from the summits of the heights. On the margins of the streams he fain would have the Smiles of God—Flowers—grow to gladden the heart of men and women who appreciate beauty, and seek rest and relaxation in the seclusion of the wilderness.

The wings of the wind beckon unto the King, and say in language persuasive, "come with us to the lands of the rising sun that they too, may share in your bounty." He listens to the song of the siren, and gathering his royal robes about him prepares for the flight, soon to discover that his first wooer had drained him of his moisture, and shorn him of his strength to minister to moisture loving children of earth. Alas! it is too late to retrace his steps and in desperation he brings into being denizens of the Desert whose roots are planted in blistering sand, whose bodies are clothed with an apparel of parchment, and whose heads are looked upon by the face of an unveiled sun. Then it is that his resourcefulness comes to his rescue, and his quick wit prompts him to say: "My children of the desert, yours is a heritage not to be despised. "You shall become the amorous delight of men, and find favor with women. To protect you against the devastating hand of the vandal who roams over the face of the earth, seeking whom he may destroy, on your garments will I place spikes and spicules; sharp as needles, and so numerous that in fear of painful punishment his hand will be stayed. To me it will be a delight to moisten your parched bed with the small amount of moisture that yet is mine. Children! absorb it. Store it in the tissues of your bodies that you may not perish from thirst until my coming again." Cacti of many sorts and diversified form sang for joy. Ocotillo—Fouquieria splendens—in sheer delight waved its scarlet banners in the breeze. Palo Verde—members of two families: Cercidium torreyanum and Parkinson microphylla gladden the heart of the wanderer over those desert wastes with showers of golden colored flowers, while Indigo Bush—Dalea spinosa, and Dalea arborescens keep pace in the procession of colors, and made merry with banners of blue. That the little squirrels who live in those desert places might have food, the thoughtful, the kindly heart of the King planted Mesquite, in two species—Prosopis juliflora and Prosopis pubescens, which produce beans. The King, after seeing that the work of his hands had not been in vain, was carried back on the wings of the desert winds to his home upon the waves of a boundless sea; there to recuperate. After a time the kisses of a warm sun on the billows of the ocean, his body would be filled again with moisture, his vigor renewed, and in due time he would return to make glad the heart of his Queen. It is in this cycle of the scheme of things Natural, that Seed time and Harvest return with mathematical precision, and Plant Life is renewed annually, that Animal Life perish not from the bosom of Mother Earth, and the Glory of God made manifest to men in Tree, in Shrub, in Flower, that the aesthetic part of his nature be nourished for the good of his mind, and heart and soul.

Time is the Loom; the Sun, the Moon, the Stars, the winds and the waves are the warp and woof, out of which is woven the fabric that clothes the person of the King.

COMMON PESTS
By Rennie W. Doane

(Charles C. Thomas, Springfield, Ill., 1931; $4.00.)

Having included in this book all the horrors he could well think of, Professor Doane has compiled a convenient manual of pretty nearly everything crawly or squirmy that has ever troubled us and a lot more beasts that now with redoubled prayers we hope never will. However, the word animal should appear somewhere in the title, for although we find treatment of all that creeps or hops or runs or flies, from itch mites, fleas, and mosquitoes, to meal-worms, rats, and blue-jays, pests of floral persuasion are not dealt with and the bacteria or even the Protozoa but incidentally. To be thus inclusive the book would have to be two or three times as large as it is. In its more restricted field a wealth of information is afforded. Its scope is readily indicated by quotation of a few of the chapter-headings: Mosquitoes and Their Control; House Flies and Disease; Parasitic Worms; Control of Insect Pests; Insect Pests of Field Crops; Flower Garden Pests; Greenhouse Pests; Insects Infesting Mills, Storerooms and Houses; Mammals as Pests. It is therefore a book for orchardist, farmer, and housekeeper no less than for gardener and horticulturist.

The author casts doubt on the wisdom of resort to arsenical baits in the control of slugs, snails, cutworms and such pests, on account of the possible permanently deleterious effect of these preparations on the soil. As this has become our accepted method of control in Southern California, the warning should be of some concern to us if soundly premised. The practice of "natural" control is of course stressed throughout as the best of all methods wherever practicable, and in connection with our native species the reader is wisely reminded of "the very important and complex relations of all living things, and of the danger of waging warfare against any creature until we are sure that its extermination, or even a material decrease in its numbers might not work more harm than good."

So attractive are the binding and make-up that it is a pity to have to add that typographical errors and other minor slips correctible in a thorough proofreading are much more numerous than we like to see in a book of this nature. The numerous illustrations are well selected and highly informative.—S. S. B.

THE CACTUS AND ITS HOME

By Forrest Shreve.

(The Williams & Wilkins Co., 1931; $3.00)

Cactus books have been coming thick and fast these days. None the less no contribution as good as this latest one can ever bring about a plethora. Well-conceived chapters on the structure of cacti, on their habits, on their principal groupings, on their distribution, and on cultivation make up decidedly the most informing small book on these extraordinarily curious plants which has yet come into our hands. The author's long experience in connection with the Desert Laboratory at Tucson has given him almost a pontifical authority to speak in this field and he does it most delightfully.

His treatment is featured by an especially interesting discussion of distribution. Save for a very few kinds indigenous to South Africa and Ceylon, all species of the family Cactaceae are American in origin. One center of their development is south of the Isthmus of Panama, the other to the north in Mexico. Out of 124 genera recognized we are told that but 7 are found in both continents. Similarly with the United States there are two main centers. The great cactus metropolis of this country is the arid or semi-arid belt extending from southern Texas to southern California, where we find a very rich flora of these plants obviously Mexican in affinity and origin. A lesser region of endemism in southern Florida possesses not a single species common as well to the western area and ties itself by way of the West Indies rather with South America. Of the states in the Union, only Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont possess no native cactus of any type, at least a prickly pear inhabiting all the others.

Our most striking cactus associations Dr. Shreve believes are to be found in southern Arizona. Here and elsewhere he is impressed by the varied and pleasing character of the desert landscapes, where although cacti form the most conspicuous single component, they are so harmoniously associated with other plants that we would do well to emulate the effect of such association more than we generally do in our artificial plantings.

The cristates and other monstrous forms so much in present vogue with collectors are dismissed very briefly, the author slyly commenting that "there is no circle of dog fanciers devoted to animals with four ears or two tails."

The photographic illustrations are numerous and beautiful, but so many of them have to do with Mexican or other exotic subjects that they could frequently seem better congruent with the pages of a context devoted mainly to our own country. A useful checklist of species arranged by states is added as an appendix.—S. S. B.

THE CALIFORNIA POPPY

How many know and appreciate the flora of their own state? Possibly if more people were interested in their native wildings the danger of their extinction would not be so great. Various clubs in California have joined the movement to restore the California Poppy to its former glory by planting vacant lots and the state highway roadsides with this flower of gold. Certain Indian tribes named this golden Poppy of California the "Great Spirit Flower"; indeed the beautiful names given it are legion. The early Spaniards used the plant for medicinal purposes and steeped its leaves in bear oil as a tonic for the hair, claiming it imparted a sheen and induced a wonderful growth. No artist has ever yet been able to do justice to this flower for he is unable to impart the satin-sheen of its thick rich petals to canvas. California ranks first, it is claimed, in the number of flowers; Colorado second.—Miriam Mitner French, Flower Grower.

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